

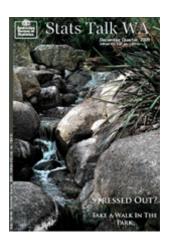
# **Australian Bureau of Statistics**

# 1304.5 - Stats Talk WA, Dec 2009

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 11/12/2009

# **Summary**

### In This Issue



### In This Issue

- A View From The Top From the ABS WA Regional Director
- Latest WA Statistics
- The XX Factor Broome
- Men At Work Spotlight On The Pilbara
- Chrissy Shopping Let The Stats Guide You
- Tired? Stressed? Take A Break This Christmas
- Surviving Leavers Leave It To The Schoolies
- Statistical News Developments in ABS Statistics
- Client Liaison Summary of Events
- Recent Releases Publications of Interest
- Sizzling Statistics
- Statistical Training

# A View From The Top

### A View From The Top From the Regional Director

With 2009 nearing an end it is time to reflect on the year that's been and some of the things we've tried to put in place.

The Global Financial Crisis has, to some extent, abated and in WA, statistically at least, most measures are looking better than many predicted. But as many commentators have already said, we are not out the woods yet.

From an ABS perspective, as long as we continue to aspire to the notion of evidence based policy in Government, we must ensure that Government has the capacity to analyse and use the evidence.

One of the key outcomes for the ABS in achieving its mission of facilitating effective Government decision making is to build the statistical community around the nation so that the capacity is maintained.

For us in the WA Office of the ABS, Stats Talk is one of the mechanisms we use to build that community and all of our readers belong to it in some small way.

Each of you has a part to play in building that community, building the appreciation for the evidence base and passing on knowledge between us.

So, to our statistical community, I want to wish you a very merry Christmas and New Year. Thank you for your support and let's keep championing the cause of evidence based policy and the statistics that support it.



Michael Tindall, Government Statistician and ABS Regional Director, Western Australia

# **Latest WA Statistics**

### **Latest WA Statistics**

	WA	Australia
Population (Jun 2008)	2.2m	21.9m
CPI (annual rate, Sep 2009)	1.2% (Perth)	1.3%
Merchandise Exports* (Sep 2009)	\$5,991m	\$15,695m
Merchandise Imports* (Sep 2009)	\$2,376m	\$17,637m
Unemployment Rate** (Oct 2009)	5.4%	5.8%

\* Original estimates based on Australian Customs Service records. Figures are not based on a Balance of Payment basis.

\*\* Trend data.

### The XX Factor

### The XX Factor

### A Chillaxed Look At The Ladies In Broome

Broome..., the outback oasis where the azure waters of the Indian Ocean lap powder white beaches and where ancient pindan cliffs dramatically change colour from pink to red as the sun sets in the evening!

This all sounds very wonderful and probably why 11,548 people decided to mark this Urban Centre as their place of usual residence in the 2006 Census of Population and Housing.



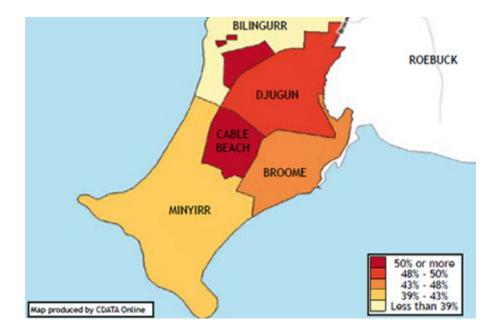
Pearl luggers at sunset off Cable Beach, in Broome (Photo courtesy of Tourism WA)

But with the extravagant scenery aside, let's use freely available Census data to get a better insight into the XX factor.

Of the 11,548 people usually resident in the Broome Urban Centre, 5,586 (48%) of these were women. But exactly where were most of these women in the town of Broome residing I hear you ask? Where else but the glorious suburb of Cable Beach (2,170 females or 39% of the females in the Broome Urban Centre) - and who could blame them!

Being the helping kind, more women in the Town of Broome were employed in the Health care & social assistance industry (438 females) than in any other industry.

**Proportion of Females by Suburb, 2006 Census** 



In addition to this, more females aged 15 and over stated that they had undertaken voluntary work for an organisation than males (898 females to 712 males).

Not only are they helpful, but they're also a very smart bunch, with almost three times as many females attending a University or other tertiary institution in comparison to males.

Roughly twice as many females held Bachelor degrees and Post-graduate qualifications in comparison to males – even with less females living in the area.

A Selection of Statistics for Broome Urban Centre (sourced from Basic Community Profiles, 2006 Census)	
Number of females	5,586
Median age of females	31
Proportion of married females (15+)	38%
Number attending an educational institution	1,128 (20%)
Most dominant religious affiliation	Catholic (1,616 females)
Proportion undertaking voluntary work (15+)	21%
Proportion of females participating in the labour force (15+)	61%
Proportion of unemployed females in the labour force (15+)	3.7%

# Men At Work

### Men At Work Spotlight on the Pilbara

The Pilbara is probably the most talked about region in the nation. But is it more than simply a gigantic hole in the ground? So what exactly makes the Pilbara so interesting?

#### **More Males**

It should come as no surprise that males in the Pilbara largely outnumber females. Data from the 2006 Census shows the sex ratio for the Pilbara as 145 males per 100 females.

Nearly two-thirds of males were between the prime working ages of 20 to 59. Not only have these guys been drawn to the big bucks up north, they have also been lured by the big trucks, yellow hard hats and steel capped boots. In 2006, 44% of employed people were working in the mining or construction industries and, of those, 86% were male. Perhaps all this rough and tough macho-man work accounts for demographer Bernard Salt's term "sheila shortage", in the Pilbara.

### **High Incomes, Long Hours**

What is all this hard yakka worth when they pick up their pay cheque? Of all regions in Western Australia, the Pilbara had the highest percentage of households with a gross weekly income over \$2,500 in 2006. High incomes were accompanied by long hours though, with 43% of all employed people in the Pilbara working 49 or more hours per week.

So what we essentially have in the Pilbara is a ute-load of blokes who have high incomes and limited spare time.



Pilbara (Photo courtesy of Tourism WA)

### Lifestyle

What do these rugged types do in their spare time? It is well known that drinking and mateship is considered a big part of the Aussie culture, and the Pilbara men are obviously doing their best to reinforce this way of life.

According to the Department of Health, alcohol consumption in the Pilbara region has generally increased from 17 litres per person (over 15 years of age) in 2000-01 to 22 litres per person in 2004-05.

And let's face it, we all know what a bunch of rowdy blokes are like when they get together for a few drinks. From 2001-02 to 2007-08, the number of reported crimes in the Pilbara increased by 13%. Property damage accounted for the largest increase of all reported crimes (up by 464, 45%) during this period, while domestic non-aggravated assault showed the largest increase for reported crimes against the person (up by 137, 88%). This may or may not be an indicator of the number of males requiring some female guidance up north.

These high earning, lonely males can also be seen to be moving with the times. In 2006, the Pilbara had a higher proportion of dwellings connected to the Internet than the state as a whole (71% compared with 63%). This was also the case in the use of a broadband

connection (76% compared with 64%). One can only suspect that internet dating sites are benefiting from this high level of web traffic.

The number of boats per capita is indicative of another popular pastime in the Pilbara, increasing significantly from an average of 30 boats per 1,000 people in 1991 to 85 boats in 2008. This may be due to a greater number of boating enthusiasts taking advantage of the excellent fishing or perhaps romantic boat cruises?

So if you're female, single and on the hunt, you might head to the Pilbara where there are a truckload of high earning blokes who require some serious taming.

For more information see *Spotlight on the Pilbara* <a href="http://www.regionalspotlights.com.au">http://www.regionalspotlights.com.au</a>.



Article by:
Dr.Misty Lawrie (left) and
Ms. Andrea Attwell,
self proclaimed experts on men.

# **Chrissy Shopping**

### Chrissy Shopping Let The Stats Guide You

"Tis the season to be jolly, and by golly it's also the season to go shopping!"

Christmas is the one time of the year when we have to shop – truly, it is not our fault that we have to buy presents for people.

This is the excuse that at least 1,162,529 Western Australians could use as they nominated themselves as Christians in the 2006 Census. Of course you don't have to be a Christian to participate, other religions and even the almost half a million Western Australians who said they had no religious affiliation are welcome to join in.

So what to get for the kiddies? Well according to ABS figures (*Children's Participation in Culture and Leisure Activities*, cat. no. 4901.0) a lot of WA children aged 5 to 14 play organised sport (63%). At the Australian level the most popular sports for boys were outdoor soccer (13%), swimming (17%) and Aussie Rules football (16%).

For girls, popular sports were swimming (20%), netball (17%) and then gymnastics (8%). Luckily for us these sports come with a range of paraphernalia that would be suitable Christmas presents (and for different budgets too).



### **Not Sporty?**

If your child isn't the sporty type you could play it safe and get them a DVD, since 97% of children had watched TV, DVDs or videos in the two weeks prior to being surveyed.

But if you would like to get your child out and about then buy them a bike, since 60% of children went bike riding in the two weeks prior to the ABS coming to call.

This might also help those 25% of children aged between 5 and 17 years who were obese, according to the *National Health Survey* (cat. no. 4364.0).

When thinking about what to buy for your parents remember it will form part of the inheritable estate, so don't be afraid to buy something that you like, such as that beautiful painting you've had your eye on.

According to the *Mature Aged Persons Statistical profile: Community Life* (cat no. 4905.0.55.001) nearly one in three people over the age of 65 visited a library, museum or art gallery in the previous three month period, so your parents might like to 'babysit' that lovely painting!

### **Christmas Feast**

Are you having Christmas lunch or dinner at your house? Perhaps you should have a quick look at the *Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities* survey (cat. no. 6403.0.55.001) which shows Perth's roast beef is the second cheapest in the land.

Forget the spuds though, as only Darwin and Canberra have more expensive ones, but go heavy on the carrots, we've got easily the nation's cheapest. Stay off the grog too, Perth's alcohol prices are above the national average.

Now you are probably wondering how to pay for all this shopping (and I haven't even mentioned Christmas decorations, pressies for the pets, neighbours, even partners!), but don't worry the answer is simple – put it on the plastic!

There are two good reasons for this; first of all it doesn't feel as bad as handing over wads of cash; and secondly everyone else is doing it, so it's totally normal! ABS data from *Australian Social Trends* (cat. no.4102.0) show that 55% of all households have credit card debt.

Right, now that you can justify spending some money and have a few ideas about what to buy for presents, go out there and shop till you drop!



Article by: Naomi Summers, Client Liaison Unit and keen reader of sale catalogues.

### **Tired? Stressed?**

# Tired? Stressed? Take A Break This Christmas

If you're feeling tired, stressed and in need of a break then you're not alone.

That's because as a nation we're spending less time playing, sleeping, eating and drinking, but working longer!

### Tired?

Don't lose sleep over it! In 2006, Australians slept for five minutes a day less than in 1997, down to an average of eight hours 31 minutes according to the ABS publication *How Australians Use Their Time, 2006* (cat no. 4153.0). I don't know about you, but I get nowhere that amount of sleep, especially if we take Friday nights as an example.

Women, though, are still getting their beauty sleep, as they reportedly spend an extra two minutes a day sleeping, and it shows! Or is it the extra 11 minutes a day on personal care that has them looking so good?

The survey also found that time spent eating and drinking also decreased by four minutes a day to one hour 29 minutes. Most people appreciate the concept of fast food, but I'm not sure about faster drinking. And I wouldn't want to have the breakdown of my eating time versus drinking time published, could be a bit embarrassing.

So who says we're all becoming couch potatoes? Well, give that person a gold star! Sadly, recreation time is estimated to have fallen by one hour 45 minutes per week since 1997, while we're spending on average an extra hour a week on activities such as watching television and using the Internet than we did in 1997.

Conversely, time spent on sport and outdoor activity has decreased by nearly an hour compared to an average week in 1997. Must be the Twenty/20 effect; same game, just done at breakneck pace.

Naturally (or is it?), men spend longer doing formal work (50% more time on the job). But if we include things like domestic activities into the mix, then women actually spend more time (an extra 4%) engaged in productive activities. Who would have guessed that?



(Flora in Kings Park)

### Stressed?

So it's no wonder we're feeling stressed! According to the ABS *General Social Survey* (cat no. 4159.0), in 2006, 63% of all Western Australians experienced at least one "stressor"\* in the previous 12 months, which was above the national average.

It is difficult to reconcile this finding as the mighty West Coast Eagles won the AFL flag in 2006 and all Western Australians, even Dockers fans, should have been in a state of euphoria. I know I was.

Interestingly, those in the age group of 45-54 years recorded a 70% rate of experiencing a stressor, possibly indicating the challenges involved in rearing teenage kids (see the article on page eight for information on this topic) and taking advice from ageing parents.

Meanwhile those aged 65-74 years recorded only 48% having stressors, which may be due to the golden years of retirement, handing out free advice (whether asked for or not) and taking great enjoyment in spending the kids' inheritance (pure speculation on my part, as I like to think I'm still a young buck).

But it seems that living in a boom state and working our behinds off also means we don't get to have contact with friends or family as much. Both WA and Queensland had the lowest rates in the nation on this measure of wellbeing. To regain these connections there may need to be a "recession we had to have"?

#### PERSONS ATTENDING CULTURAL VENUES AND EVENTS, WA ,2005-06 NUMBER('000) ATTENDANCE RATE(%) 355.8 22.8 Art galleries 345.7 22.2 677.6 43.4 Zoological parks & aquariums 520.8 33.4 Botanic gardens Libraries 572.5 36.7 168.2 10.8 Classical music concerts Popular music concerts 479.9 30.8 Theatre performances 261.6 16.8 9.7 Dance performances 152.1 14.8 Musicals and operas 230.4 Other performing arts 274.7 17.6 Cinemas 1039.0 66.6 1367.8 87.6 At least one venue or event Total population aged 15 1560.5 n.a. years and over Source: cat. no. 4114.0

### Need a Break?

But don't worry, relief is available. Why not take advantage of the strong Aussie dollar and escape to an exotic overseas destination. From ABS statistics on short-term departures by air on holiday, *Overseas Arrivals and Departures* (cat. no. 3401.0), West Aussies undertook 472,000 OS trips in 2008-09.

It appears that what we enjoy most is relaxing in a tropical clime, whilst kicking back and sipping on a refreshing 'mango daiquiri' (complete with miniature umbrella), as indicated by almost 60% of travellers visiting our South-East Asian neighbours.

The top destinations were Bali (also known as Indonesia) at 31%, the former Kingdom of Siam (Thailand) with 12%, and the Lion City, Singapore and Truly Asia, Malaysia (both over 7%). Those well known abbreviated destinations, the UK and NZ, were also popular destinations, with both taking over 6% of our overseas departures.

Or if it's a cheap domestic holiday that you're after then why not get back to basics and head off to one of the 197 caravan parks in WA. As of the June quarter 2009 there were 37 caravan parks on the Coral Coast, 31 in the North West, 57 in the South West, 49 in Perth, and 23 in the Golden Outback according to *Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data* (cat. no. 8635.0.55.002).



Picnic Area in Kings Park
(Photo Courtesy of Tourism WA)

If you do decide to stay put, there are still other options to get away from it all. Going to the movies offers a 'great escape' for a couple of hours or so and remains our most popular cultural activity. It's the younger generation who are going most, with the vast majority (93%) of 15-17 year old Australians seeing at least one movie in 2005-06. I suspect this is a win-win result for both parents and teenagers (*Attendance at Selected Cultural Venues and Events, Australia, 2005-06* cat. no. 4114.0).

They say that music is 'food for the soul' so there should be a lot of fat West Aussies if that's true. Some 31% attended a popular music concert, 15% attended a musical or opera and 11% went to a classical concert in 2005-06. If they all went on the same night, and there was no overlap, over half the population would have got some form of musical entertainment. Or if you're after something a little less noisy, then why not take your pick of fantasy, crime, Jane Austen or Fabio down at the peaceful environs of your local library, which attracted 37% of the WA population. Maybe the other 63% couldn't read the sign out the front?

And don't forget to smell the roses whilst picnicking down at your local park. Botanic gardens not only attract birds, butterflies and tai chi enthusiasts, but also 33% of all Western Australians. So make the most of your summer break and here's to a great 2010!



Article by Greg Hilton, Client Liaison Unit Cool, calm and collected.

\* 'stressor' is fancy statistical term for events or conditions which adversely impact on an individual's life or the collective lives of families or close friends. You may know it by such terms as bummer, downer or absolute shocker.

# **Surviving Leavers**

Surviving Leavers Leave It To The Schoolies Yes everyone, it's that time of year again, TEE and leavers!

According to the *2006 Census of Population and Housing*, 28,137 Western Australian students left school in 2006 and similar numbers are expected this year.

I am one of many who identify themselves as TEE and Leaver's Survivors. That is, a parent of a school leaver. We are the emotional boxing bag, psychological counsellors, mind readers, taxi service, and personal automatic teller machines that are taken for granted by our offspring.

Now, you might think that 28,137 leavers equates to 56,274 parents, but Census data tells us that a quarter of children live in single parent families. This drops our parent numbers to 49,244 parents.

### **Kidspeak**

Part of growing up is about taking responsibility for one's self. Leaver's celebrations can be the epitome of this. This leads to the dreaded "Let's talk about your attending Leaver's Week" conversation.

That's of course if you said it in English, which 85% of potential school leavers used as their main language at home. The other major languages of leavers were Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese and Indonesian.

Interestingly there were 9 who stated their main language was "non-verbal, so described". This isn't sign language as that's covered elsewhere, but I'm sure most parents would be familiar with the grunts, shoulder shrugs and constant texting of their teenage kids and wonder why this figure wasn't higher.

Not many plan effectively for these rites of passage from being a school kid to becoming a young adult, so finding resources to help them and providing them is essential.

So, the elephant in the room happens when you state, "We want you to have a good time but we also want to make you aware of what can possibly go wrong," is probably one of the double edged swords we as parents have to wield.

18-24 age group, Australia, 2007-2008					
	Risky/High Risk		Did not consume / irregular / low risk		
130	Male	Female	Male	Female	
1991	11%	8%	89%	92%	
2001	14%	9%	86%	91%	
2004-05	15%	12%	85%	88%	
2007-08	16%	13%	84%	87%	

### Getting up to no good?

The ABS provides a snapshot of weekly alcohol consumption in the *National Health Survey* (cat. no. 4364.0). "Risky drinking" is defined as seven or more standard drinks in one day for males and five or more for females. While "High Risk" drinking is eleven drinks or more for

males and seven or more for females.

The table above shows a steady increase in the levels of risky/high risk drinking by young people over a 15 year period. Between 2001 and 2004-05 females in this category rose sharply, though in 2007-08 the boys are still ahead.

In my constant quest to find common ground with our daughter and her friends I found an excellent website hosted by the Office of Crime Prevention. This website has good advice on planning for leavers celebrations for young people and includes some of the dangers that may befall them. It can be found at <www.leaverswa.com.au/>.

I went through the grief of preparing our young adult for leavers. Happily, it all went well and I am very proud of how she took up the leadership role when a few unplanned things happened.

So, the "Yes Mum!" stated with attitude, did actually mean, "Yes Mum, I have heard you and taken on board what you have said, so please trust me to act accordingly".

And they all lived happily ever after!



Article by: Hayley Priestley, TEE and Leavers Survivor

## **Statistical News**

Statistical News
Developments In ABS Statistics

#### CensusAtSchool

The Australian Bureau of Statistics is pleased to announce the CensusAtSchool Questionnaire will run annually from 2010.

Students will once again have the opportunity to be part of the Australian CensusAtSchool database. The live 2010 questionnaire will open on 27 January next year, then close before the new data is added to the Random Sampler in July 2010.

CensusAtSchool has previously found that 73% of Australian students had broadband internet at home in 2008, compared with 53% in 2006, their favourite take-away food was Pizza/Pasta and 45% of students travelled to school by car. What will the data show in 2010?

Teachers can set up an account at <www.cas.abs.gov.au/>.



### **Labour Force Sample Back In Full**

On 13 May 2009, the Australian Statistician announced the full re-instatement of the Labour Force Survey (LFS) sample, offsetting the July 2008 reduction.

As foreshadowed in *Labour Force*, *Australia* (cat. no. 6202.0), the sample is being reinstated progressively from September to December 2009.

The December 2009 estimates will be the first produced under the fully re-instated sample, and will be released on 15 January 2010.

The sample re-instatement is expected to result in approximately 56,000 persons fully responding to the LFS in December 2009, covering about 1 in 315 (0.32%) of the civilian population aged 15 years and over.

Thereafter, the sample size will gradually increase in line with population growth until the sample is redesigned following the 2011 Census.

### **Classification Implementation for Average Weekly Earnings**

Changes will be made to the quarterly Survey of *Average Weekly Earnings* (AWE) from the August 2009 reference period onwards.

This is due to the implementation of the new Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC), 2006.

In 2002, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) and Statistics New Zealand commenced a review to maintain the currency and relevance of ANZSIC.

The review found that since the release of the original classification in 1993, there had been significant changes in industrial and business activities in both Australia and New Zealand.

The 2006 edition of ANZSIC was released in February 2006.

### **WA Statistical Indicators**

Like flares in the 70s, shoulder pads in the 80s and grunge shirts in the 90s, every decade has its fashion, but what will we remember fondly about the noughties?

Western Australian Statistical Indicators (ABS Cat. No. 1367.5) was first released for the September 2000 quarter.

Alas, as with all icons of their day, there comes a time to move on and so, sadly but fittingly, the final quarterly release of this publication will be for December 2009 on 28 January 2010.

However, plans are afoot to bring in the next decade with a new look! A 'live' portal is to be developed on the ABS website that will provide quick access to a comprehensive range of up-to-date info about WA, along with summaries of the latest economic, social and environmental happenings and more in-depth analytical articles.

Watch out for an update in the first Stats Talk of the trendy 10s...

## **Client Liaison**

### Client Liaison Summary of Events

#### The Brew

As a result of ABS involvement in the All-of-Government Bizlinks initiative, Bodi Ledwij from the Client Services Branch was invited to be a guest speaker at Challenge Stadium for The Brew – Small Business Expo.

The Brew is all about bringing businesses together to access information and inspiration; to share and develop opportunities; to market and promote the business-to-business products and services that are available locally.

Bodi's role was to promote the use of statistics as a way of making informed business decisions and to highlight some of the useful ways to locate target markets using freely available Census data off the ABS website.

For more info about The Brew, please visit their website at <www.thebrew.com.au/>.





### **Pilbara Spotlight**

On 23 September 2009, the WA office of the ABS launched one of its most successful collaborative pieces of work to date, *The Spotlight on the Pilbara*.

Supported by the Minister for Regional Development, Brendon Grylls, the regional spotlight initiative presents a series of community indicator frameworks developed in partnership between the ABS, the nine WA Regional Development Commissions, and the WA Department of Regional Development and Lands.

The Spotlight Project brings together selected statistical information about each region from a wide variety of sources to provide a practical framework for use in regional strategic management and policy development.

For more information, visit <www.regionalspotlights.com.au/>.



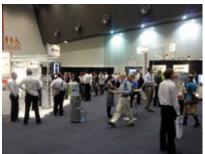


### **WALIS Forum**

The WA Land Information System International Forum is one of the premier Geographic Information System conferences in Australia, attracting over 800 delegates from a diverse range of professions. Held every 18 months, the Forum provides an opportunity to address issues related to all aspects of location-based information.

The theme of this year was "Business Intelligence, Business Solutions & Education" and the WA office of the ABS demonstrated some of the useful mapping tools freely available off the ABS website. This was to assist people with using location-based information and to demonstrate the collaboration and sharing of geographic information across different sectors.

The next WALIS Forum in 2011 will be held in conjunction with the International Society for Digital Earth Symposium (ISDE 7).





# **Recent Releases**

# Recent Releases Publications of Interest

Publication Title	ABS Catalogue Number
Western Australian Statistical Indicators, Sep 2009	1367.5
Census Table Builder	2065.0
Deaths, Australia, 2008	3302.0
Housing Mobility and Conditions, 2007–08	4130.0.55.002
Perspectives on Sport, Dec 2009	4156.0.55.001
Arts and Culture in Australia: A Statistical Overview, 2009	4172.0

Environmental Issues: Waste Management & Transport Use, Mar 2009	4602.0.55.002
Alternative View of Electricity & Gas Supply Activity, 06-07 to 07-08	4647.0
Spotlight on National Accounts, 2009	5202.0
International Merchandise Imports, Australia, Oct 2009	5439.0
Internet Activity, Australia, Jun 2009	8153.0
Mineral and Petroleum Exploration, Australia, Sep 2009	8412.0
Dwelling Unit Commencements, Australia, Preliminary, Jun 2009	8750.0
Sales of New Motor Vehicles, Australia, Oct 2009	9314.0

# **Sizzling Statistics**

### **Sizzling Statistics**

### **Baby Boom**

The Shire of Narrogin had WA's highest birth rate in 2008, more than twice the state average. The shires of Yalgoo and Quairading filled the minor placings (cat no. 3301.0).

#### **Job Losses Peaked?**

WA's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate fell to 5.0% in October, down 0.7%. The trend unemployment figure has remained at 5.4% for the past 4 months (cat. no. 6202.0).

### **Tough Time To Sell New Cars**

Despite WA recording a 0.2% increase in September for the sales of new motor vehicles, there was still a 14.9% decline over the previous 12 month period (cat. no. 9314.0).

### **Counting Sheep**

In the year ended June 2009 Western Australia was estimated to contain 15.5 million sheep, down from over 17.5 million in the previous period (cat. no. 7111.0).

### Can't Stay Awake?

According to the ABS's Average Retail Prices collection, Perth had the most expensive instant coffee of all the capital cities. That's a pity, because Perth had the cheapest milk with which to make a flat white (cat. no. 6403.0.55.001).

### Pink Wine?

For the year ended June 2009 there were 683 hectares of vines bearing red wine grapes and 688 hectares of vines bearing white wine grapes in WA. White wine grapes will consolidate their lead in the future, with an extra 407 hectares not yet at the bearing stage (cat. no. 1329.0.55.002).

### We Could Do Better

While 73% of Western Australian Indigenous children aged 4 to 14 in 2008 were reported as having Excellent/Very good health, this was the lowest figure of all the states and territories (cat. no. 4174.0).

### **Census Tables**

### **Census Tables**

Interested in a specific Census topic? Want data on a particular area? If so, Census Tables are for you.

Choosing from key Census characteristics of persons, families and dwellings, the online Census Tables tool provides you with a single table of Census data for a chosen location.

Select an area, pick a topic, it's really just that simple. Census Tables has been designed to assist you in researching, planning and analysing topical issues or areas of interest.

It also enables comparisons to be made between different areas on a number of social, economic and demographic variables.

Easy to operate, fast to access, Census Tables presents you with the information you require - for free!

Census Tables - Discover it free online.

<a href="https://www.abs.gov.au/census/">https://www.abs.gov.au/census/</a>



## **About this Release**

Stats Talk is a newsletter produced by the Western Australian office of the ABS. It provides information about new developments, publications, seminars, training and reviews

#### © Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence